

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5**

DATE: March 10, 2006

SUBJECT: Reports of Significant Developments and Activities
Ending on March 3, 2006

FROM: Richard C. Karl, Director
Superfund Division

TO: Thomas V. Skinner
Regional Administrator

Bharat Mathur
Deputy Regional Administrator

The activities listed below are organized by site-specific activities and training/conferences:

SITE-SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES

Expedited Settlement Agreement Filed, Illinois-American Water Company, Granite City, Illinois

On February 10, 2006, the Office of Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Prevention (OCEPP) filed an Expedited Settlement Agreement (ESA) with the Illinois-American Water Company in Granite City, Illinois. In the ESA, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) alleges that the Illinois-American Water Company violated areas of implementation of the Risk Management Program, 40 CFR Part 68. The Illinois-American Water Company treats 10-12 billion gallons a day of water that is then distributed and used in the surrounding area.

The facility is a Program 3 facility. Some of the violations include not maintaining documentation on the alternative release scenario, not addressing the findings and recommendations made in the Process Hazard Analysis, not maintaining all required operating procedures, not establishing and implementing written procedures to maintain the ongoing integrity of the process equipment, not documenting a compliance audit at least every three years, and not addressing findings and recommendations in the compliance audit. The Illinois-American Water Company accepted the ESA, certified that they resolved all violations, and paid a \$1,350.00 penalty to the U.S. Treasury.

Contact: Monika Chrzaszcz (312-886-0181)

Expedited Settlement Agreement Filed, Chicagoland Quad Cities Express, Bedford Park, Illinois

On February 28, 2006, the Office of Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Prevention (OCEPP), filed an Expedited Settlement Agreement (ESA) with the Chicagoland Quad Cities Express facility in Bedford Park, Illinois. In the ESA, U.S. EPA alleges that the Chicagoland Quad Cities Express violated areas of implementation of the Risk Management Program, 40 CFR Part 68.

Chicagoland Quad Cities Express is a chemical warehouse facility and is a Program 2 facility. Some of the violations include not using the most recent Census data to estimate the population, not conducting an initial hazard review, and not conducting a compliance audit at least every three years. Chicagoland Quad Cities Express accepted the ESA, certified that they resolved all violations, and paid a \$585.00 penalty to the U.S. Treasury.

Contact: Monika Chrzaszcz (312-886-0181)

Administrative Complaint Filed, Engineered Polymer Solutions, Inc. Kankakee, Illinois

On February 16, 2006, the Agency filed an Administrative Complaint against Engineered Polymer Solutions, Inc., Kankakee, Illinois. The complaint alleges violations of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) Section 103 and the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act Section 304. On November 24, 2002, at 1:30 p.m. an employee at the facility discovered a 2,568 pound release of naphthalene that entered into a public sewer system. Naphthalene is a hazardous substance under CERCLA with a reportable quantity of 100 pounds. This release was about 26 times the reportable quantity (RQ). The person in charge of the facility notified the National Response Center on November 25, 2002, at 4:25 p.m. or 1 day, 2 hours, and 55 minutes after the release was discovered. The owner or operator of the facility notified the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) on December 16, 2002, or 22 days after the release was discovered. The owner or operator of the facility provided the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) with the written follow-up report on January 7, 2003, or 44 days after the release was discovered. The owner or operator of the facility provided the LEPC with the written follow-up report on December 16, 2002, or 22 days after the release was discovered. The proposed penalty in the complaint is \$96,389.86.

Engineered Polymer Solutions, Inc. will have 30 days to respond to the Complaint.

Contact: James Entzminger (312-886-4062)

Public Meeting, St. Clair Shores Drain Site, St. Clair Shores, Michigan

On Wednesday, March 1, 2006, a public meeting was held at Lakeview High School in St. Clair Shores, Michigan, to discuss an ongoing polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) contamination issue in the City. There was a previous U.S. EPA cleanup of PCBs in this area. The current issue is that the area of the historical cleanup is being threatened with re-contamination due to a previously undocumented and undetected area of PCB contamination. This contamination is migrating into a storm sewer which dumps into public use canals. The canals are connected directly to Lake St. Clair.

The focus of the meeting was to inform the public of U.S. EPA's upcoming field work to line a portion of the sewer system and to discuss further studies of the site to be used to generate a long-term cleanup goal. The lining to be placed in the sewer is to stop the immediate threat and does not complete long-term cleanup goals. The panel for the meeting consisted of representatives from the Michigan Department of Community Health, the Macomb County Health Department, the Macomb County Public Works Office and their contractor, the City of St. Clair Shores, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, and U.S. EPA. Also attending the meeting but not on the panel were aides to U.S. Congressman Sander Levin, to U.S. Senators Carl Levin and Debbie Stabenow, and an aide to Michigan State Senator Olshove.

Contacts: Jeff Kimble (734-692-7688)
 Jason El-Zein (734-692-7661)
 Laura Ripley (312-886-6040)
 Bob Paulson (312-886-0272)
 Mick Hans (312-353-5050)

TRAINING/CONFERENCES

Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasures Interactive Workshop, East Michigan Chapter of the Air & Waste Management Association, Detroit, Michigan

On March 2, 2006, Barb Carr, Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasures (SPCC) Coordinator (Oil Planning and Response Section) spoke before the East Michigan Chapter of the Air &

Waste Management Association in Detroit, Michigan. Dr. Carr spoke to the attendees about the proposed amendments to the SPCC regulation and the compliance deadline extension of October 31, 2007, (www.epa.gov/oilspill). In addition, the major components of an SPCC plan, the SPCC Inspector's Guidance Document (available on the website), what to expect during an inspection, environmental and financial impacts of a spill, and applicability exercises were also part of the presentation. More than 110 members were in attendance because of the regulated industry's interest in the proposed amendments to the rule and the extended deadline for compliance. The Air & Waste Management Association and the attendees were very pleased with the presentation and grateful for the Region's participation in their meeting.

Contact: Barb Carr (312-886-7187)

Conference Call, Quarterly Update on Office of Research and Development Sediment Research Activities, Chicago, Illinois

On February 27, 2006, Bonnie Eleder, representing Region 5 and as chair of the Contaminated Sediment Regional Research Advisory Group, participated on the first Office of Research and Development (ORD) Quarterly Update of Contaminated Sediment Research Activities. This informative call provided a forum for each of the labs and Hazardous Substance Research Center/South and Southwest (HSRC/S&SW) to provide updates on their key sediment research projects. The labs had also provided fact sheets for each research project prior to the call. These calls improve communication between ORD labs and the Regions, and provide for Regional input and feedback on the projects.

Contact: Bonnie Eleder (312-886-4885)

cc: Tom Dunne (OSWER)
 Barry Breen (OSWER)
 Ed Chu (OSWER)
 David Lopez (OSWER)
 Ernie Watkins (OSWER)
 Susan Bromm (OECA)
 Phyllis Harris (OECA)
 Mike Cook (OERR)
 Dana Tulis (OERR)
 Elizabeth Southerland (OERR)
 Larry Zaragoza (OERR)
 Craig Beasley (OERR)
 Joshua Barber (FFRO)

Region 5 State Superfund Coordinators
Division/Office Directors
ORA State Coordinators
Regional Team Managers